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Title I and School Support Focus School eBrief

A Newsletter from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Tony Evers, PhD, State Superintendent

August 2017

Innovations in Equity: Improving Our Practice Conference

Focus School principals and their leadership teams are encouraged to attend the Innovations in Equity Conference on September 25-26 in Stevens Point. This conference replaces the Focus and Priority School Conference we've held in the past and is a combined effort between Title I and Special Education. It's free to Focus School staff. You can use your Focus School grant for your travel expenses and substitutes. For more information and to register, visit

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing all Title I Focus Schools with consistent and timely information, the Title I and School Support Team will be providing regular eBriefs to Principals, Indistar Process Managers, and Title I coordinators. We welcome suggestions about topics you would like addressed in future editions.

2017-18 Requirements and Indistar 3.0

This year, each Focus School must have one active objective in the fall and update their progress of that objective in the spring. We encourage schools to carefully select the objective on which to focus their efforts. Schools are welcome to continue with additional objectives if they so desire. Indistar now has a limit of 10 indicators at a time. We ask you to watch the short webinar when you first sign on to Indistar; it will explain the new version. One of the first things you will need to do is click on the "set direction" link. This will take you through a four-step process which will include checking the indicators you want to work on during the year. The Indistar check points will be October 1, 2017 and May 1, 2018.

Focus School Consultants

Welcome Karen Rice, who now holds the Focus School consultant position previously held by Aundrea Worthing. Karen comes to DPI after working for almost 10 years in the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District in a variety of roles, including District Interpreter, Transitional Education and Latino family Outreach Coordinator, and most recently the Bilingual Family Liaison.

Focus School Grant

Schools will receive the \$14,000 grant which can be used for Indistar support and professional development; with the added flexibility of using the grant for student-related purchases such as academic support and resources. As this grant is still Title I funding, expenditures must continue to follow Title I rules such as supplement, not supplant. If you have questions, please contact your DPI Focus School consultant.

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunities

Innovations in Equity: Improving Our Practice Conference in Stevens Point, September 25-26, 2017.
See first article in this newsletter.

The Wisconsin Mathematics Council is hosting the Mathematical Proficiency for Every Student conference at the Chula Vista in Wisconsin Dells, October 18-19, 2017. For more information, visit: http://www.wismath.org/MPES

Wisconsin State Reading Association Convention, February 8-10, 2018. http://www.wsra.org/upcoming-conventions

Wisconsin Title I Association Conference in Wisconsin Dells, April 5-6, 2018.

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Wisconsin Math Council's Annual Conference in Green Lake, May 2-4, 2018.

Wisconsin RtI Center has many wonderful professional development events. If there are instructional coaches in your school, we especially encourage the principal and coaches attend the Leadership and Coaching series together.